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MOVEMENT OF WOOL FROM SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE 1/

Movement to United States, 1949-50 Season

Wool exports from the 5 principal wool-producing Southern Hemisphere countries (Australia, New Zealand, Union of South Africa, Argentina and Uruguay) to the United States for the 1949-50 season through December, according to preliminary data available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, amounted to 173 million pounds. This is an increase of 57 million pounds or 49 percent over the same period last year.

Notwithstanding this increase in movement over a year previous, the quantity is well below the level in the 3 years prior to the 1948-49 season. The movement of wool from Australia to the United States was very small in comparison with the total wool exports from the former country, the United States taking only 10 percent of the July-December total exports which amounted to about one-half of the season's clip.

Total to all Destinations, 1949-50 Season

Total movement from the 5 countries for the season through December was 901 million pounds, compared to 862 million pounds in 1948, an increase of 4 percent. In 1947 the movement for this period was 789 million pounds. Although exports from all countries to the United States were larger, the total exports from Uruguay and the Union of South Africa were smaller for the period compared to last year, due possibly to the slow start at the opening sales because of high prices.

Reports indicate that wool is being brought to market by producers as fast as possible due to very good returns and the fear that the price might not hold. The high rate of activity in consuming countries and the low stock position has caused complete clearance at most auctions, followed by fast handling in order to make the current clip available to the mills. This process has also quickened where possible because of the high cost of financing wools purchased.

1/ For information on wool production by countries, see FW 6-49, Foreign Agricultural Circular, "World Wool Production in 1949, November 28, 1949"

WOOL: Exports from five principal Southern Hemisphere countries, prewar average and 1948
(Actual weight: Greasy, scoured and pulled)

| Countries of destination | Australia | | New Zealand | | Union of South Africa | | Argentina | | Uruguay | | Total | |
|--|-----------|----------|-------------|----------|-----------------------|---------|-----------|----------|---------|---------|----------|----------|
| | Average | | Average | | Average | | Average | | Average | | Average | |
| | 1934-38 | 1948 | 1934-38 | 1948 | 1934-38 | 1948 | 1934-38 | 1948 | 1934-38 | 1948 | 1934-38 | 1948 |
| United States | Mil. 26 | Mil. 75 | Mil. 15 | Mil. 24 | Mil. 2 | Mil. 16 | Mil. 53 | Mil. 103 | Mil. 15 | Mil. 67 | Mil. 111 | Mil. 285 |
| United Kingdom | lbs. 321 | lbs. 404 | lbs. 164 | lbs. 204 | lbs. 44 | lbs. 63 | lbs. 85 | lbs. 4 | lbs. 20 | lbs. 2/ | lbs. 534 | lbs. 675 |
| Canada | 3 | 8 | 10 | 15 | 2/ | 1 | 2/ | 2/ | 0 | 2/ | 13 | 24 |
| Continental Europe | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| France | 110 | 218 | 25 | 78 | 50 | 54 | 48 | 20 | 7 | 1 | 240 | 371 |
| Belgium | 116 | 102 | 13 | 12 | 21 | 24 | 20 | 9 | 10 | 10 | 180 | 157 |
| Germany | 37 | 17 | 7 | 23 | 64 | 21 | 49 | 5 | 31 | 13 | 188 | 79 |
| Italy | 22 | 113 | 1 | 7 | 16 | 25 | 19 | 10 | 13 | 15 | 71 | 170 |
| Netherlands | 13 | 11 | 1/ | 14 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 20 | 45 |
| Sweden | 4 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 12 |
| Poland | 13 | 29 | 2/ | 6 | 3 | 2 | 10 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 28 | 40 |
| Others | 26 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 37 | 23 |
| Total Continental Europe | 341 | 498 | 47 | 147 | 157 | 135 | 155 | 63 | 72 | 54 | 772 | 897 |
| Japan | 132 | 23 | 18 | 4 | 21 | 3 | 7 | 0 | 8 | 2/ | 186 | 30 |
| Other Near and Far East | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1/ | 0 | - | - | 2 | 4 |
| Australia | 0 | 0 | 11 | 6 | 0 | 2/ | 2/ | 0 | 0 | - | 11 | 6 |
| U.S.S.R. | 0 | 45 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 2/ | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 69 |
| All others | 2 | 41 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 24 | 54 |
| Total | 827 | 1,096 | 274 | 425 | 231 | 220 | 306 | 178 | 115 | 125 | 1,753 | 2,044 |
| 1/ If any, included with others. 2/ Less than 500,000 lbs. | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Compiled from official sources and reports of Foreign Service officers.

WOOL: Exports from Southern Hemisphere countries, 1949-50 season through December 1/,
with comparison
(actual weight)

| Principal countries of destination | Australia | | New Zealand | | Union of South Africa | | Argentina | | Uruguay | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|---------|-------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 1948-49 | 1949-50 | 1948-49 | 1949-50 | 1948-49 | 1949-50 | 1948-49 | 1949-50 | 1948-49 | 1949-50 |
| | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. |
| | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. |
| United States | 38.5 | 63.0 | 12.7 | 5.5 | 8.6 | 17.6 | 44.3 | 66.8 | 12.1 | 18.6 |
| United Kingdom | 176.0 | 209.9 | 70.9 | 35.3 | 31.4 | 28.0 | 0.1 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Canada | 7.9 | 7.8 | 6.0 | 2.9 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 3/ | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Continental Europe | | | | | | | | | | |
| France | 134.5 | 87.6 | 23.7 | 5.3 | 34.0 | 9.6 | 0.0 | 9.2 | 0.0 | 1.1 |
| Belgium | 48.7 | 65.2 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 11.5 | 10.1 | 1.1 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 2.1 |
| Germany | 2.9 | 28.7 | 3.3 | 3.1 | 4.4 | 11.8 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 2.4 |
| Italy | 52.3 | 24.2 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 13.6 | 4.1 | 0.3 | 1.8 | 8.2 | 1.6 |
| Others | 29.2 | 37.4 | 9.5 | 5.3 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 5.0 | 5.5 | 6.9 | 1.7 |
| Total | 267.6 | 243.1 | 39.3 | 16.0 | 67.9 | 40.0 | 6.4 | 19.3 | 18.5 | 8.9 |
| Others | 43.5 | 50.7 | 3.7 | 29.3 | 1.5 | 4.1 | 1.9 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.4 |
| Total | 533.5 | 574.5 | 132.6 | 89.0 | 109.8 | 90.2 | 52.7 | 87.7 | 31.9 | 28.9 |

1/ Season begins July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and Union of South Africa and October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay. 2/ July - November. 3/ Less than 50,000 pounds

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Compiled from official sources and reports of Foreign Service officers.

Exports to the United States increased by a much larger percentage than did total exports. However, activity in the United States increased considerably during the last quarter of 1949 over the first three quarters. It is evident that all countries are filling their needs as rapidly as possible against a possible shortage later in the year. According to the rate of movement there is a possibility that supplies of most wanted wools will be exhausted in the major centers by the end of the season.

Market Situation by Countries

Receipts of wool into store in Australia in the six-month period ended December 31, 1949 amounted to 2,903,638 bales. Of this amount 1,819,801 bales were sold at auction and 23,563 bales were shipped abroad for sale, leaving 1,064,274 bales in store at the beginning of the January auction. The amount in store on December 31, 1948 was 1,268,437 bales. Additional receipts are expected to raise this amount to a total of 1,400,000 bales and this plus 220,000 bales of wool from Joint Organization Stock will be offered in the second half of the 1949-50 selling season. It is reported that some of the commonwealth's choicest clips will be included in the offerings.

It is estimated that by the end of the second round of sales in New Zealand by late February around 70 percent of the 1949-50 clip will be sold. It is also indicated that the selling season may close earlier than a year ago if the current volume is maintained. Crossbred wools have been in strongest demand with greatest interest shown by Bradford and continental buyers. United States buying has not been heavy but slightly above last year while the Soviet Union purchases have been relatively light. Exports to United States through December were about 7 million pounds as compared to 12.7 for the same period last year. Total exports from New Zealand through December were approximately 115 million pounds compared to 133 for the same period last year. These figures apply to exports and not to sales.

The total quantity of unsold wool in stock at Union of South Africa ports at the end of October was about 17 million pounds, which compares with October 31, 1948 stocks at 21 million pounds, and October 31, 1947 stocks at 21.5 million pounds. Total bales offered for sale for the period July 1 through December 31, 1949 amounted to 392,009, compared with 410,281 and 381,631, respectively, for the same period in 1948 and 1947. A clearance of about 90 percent at all sales has been noted which would indicate that approximately 50 percent of the smaller 1949-50 clip has been sold. Authorities in the Union are concerned with the possibility of a reappearance of third country deals taking advantage of currency manipulations to the detriment of the Union's dollar balance. This fear has been prompted by a drop in wool shipments consigned to the United States during the latter part of December and in January.

The current marketing situation in Uruguay has been unusually good but at the present time the market is completely paralyzed due to a strike of warehouse workers. Wool deliveries for exports are likely to be delayed, depending upon the settlement of this strike. Most of the clip is in the warehouses and is available for sale as very few producers are holding their wool in view of the high prices at the present time.

Remaining stocks are estimated at approximately 66 million pounds, made up of 44 million pounds of new clip and 22 million pounds from previous clips. Most of the stock on hand is low-grade wool which normally finds a slow market.

Movement from Argentina has been rather brisk for the season. Prices have been favorable in relation to those in other countries. It is evident that the government does not wish to repeat the experience of last year when a great deal of wool was left over at the end of the season. Movement through December to the United States was over twice that of last year, while total exports through December were two-thirds larger than for the same period last year.

United States Imports by Grades, Annually, 1936-49

The relative importance of the various grades and the ranking of the 5 principal supplying countries of the Southern Hemisphere that supplement the indigenous production of the United States, are shown on the accompanying table. There has been some shifting in the relative proportions falling into the various grades of fineness. The most noticeable shift has been the gradual trend to a greater proportion of the finer grades, particularly to the over 56's classification.

Argentina is by far the most important supplier of the coarser grades, "wool not finer than 40's." That country has furnished from 85 to 90 percent of this grade over the period shown.

In the "40's to 44's" category Argentina and New Zealand supply the bulk of United States imports, with Argentina being the largest supplier in nine out of the last 14 years. Uruguay produces considerable wool in these grades and has been an important supplier in some years.

All of the major Southern Hemisphere countries with the exception of Union of South Africa contribute to the "44's to 56's" category. Argentina and Uruguay have traditionally been the most important and only relatively small amounts have come from Australia. Appreciable quantities in these grades came from New Zealand during the war.

In the finer grades "over 56's" all countries except New Zealand are important. However, Australia, the world's largest producer of fine wools, is by far the largest supplier. That country supplies over 50 percent of United States needs in this category. The Union of South Africa makes its most important contribution in these grades and the bulk of Uruguay's shipments fall into this category. Argentina produces fine wools also and large quantities of it are purchased by United States mills; however, that country is most noted for its coarser wool.

United States needs for the coarser grades are expected to remain fairly stationary; however, as indigenous production declines and consumer demand for products made from fine wools remain high, imports in the "over 56's" grades will be large.

DUTYABLE WOOL: United States imports for consumption by principal countries, 1936-49 1/2,
 wool not finer than 40's, 40's-44's, 44's-56's and over 56's
 (actual weight)

| Country | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds |
| Australia | 204 | 516 | 90 | 253 | 114 | 105 | 45 | 58 | 4 | 88 | 232 | 84 | 246 | 847 |
| New Zealand | 2,261 | 4,226 | 1,720 | 3,278 | 348 | 260 | 576 | 331 | 576 | 1,456 | 1,815 | 742 | 325 | 313 |
| Union of South Africa | 0 | 18 | 5 | 0 | 19 | 154 | 17 | 4 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 1 | 54 | 193 |
| Uruguay | 1,921 | 1,690 | 735 | 550 | 1,142 | 2,249 | 1,206 | 327 | 735 | 737 | 667 | 481 | 549 | 306 |
| Argentina | 11,656 | 10,189 | 5,802 | 11,163 | 15,133 | 31,186 | 29,371 | 12,720 | 36,947 | 34,660 | 65,110 | 35,707 | 22,827 | 11,063 |
| Other countries | 4,850 | 2,547 | 1,645 | 2,123 | 1,096 | 1,388 | 820 | 514 | 508 | 1,389 | 718 | 321 | 575 | 291 |
| Total | 20,892 | 19,184 | 9,997 | 17,367 | 17,852 | 35,342 | 32,035 | 13,954 | 38,770 | 38,344 | 68,542 | 37,336 | 24,576 | 13,013 |
| Australia | 325 | 316 | 14 | 31 | 30 | 23 | 100 | 27 | 36 | 168 | 261 | 1,216 | 99 | 702 |
| New Zealand | 1,998 | 3,927 | 1,649 | 2,896 | 1,311 | 970 | 2,690 | 3,436 | 5,022 | 8,180 | 10,955 | 7,317 | 3,115 | 3,553 |
| Union of South Africa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Uruguay | 3,919 | 2,650 | 196 | 2,382 | 2,105 | 6,078 | 2,389 | 2,658 | 2,975 | 3,009 | 3,774 | 2,029 | 2,622 | 1,532 |
| Argentina | 1,559 | 2,230 | 295 | 917 | 2,260 | 5,313 | 9,160 | 23,815 | 21,681 | 11,914 | 17,500 | 7,844 | 6,139 | 3,671 |
| Other countries | 2,346 | 1,319 | 445 | 810 | 631 | 645 | 605 | 407 | 421 | 613 | 517 | 1,276 | 229 | 364 |
| Total | 10,147 | 10,442 | 2,599 | 7,036 | 6,338 | 13,069 | 14,948 | 10,343 | 30,135 | 23,884 | 33,007 | 19,682 | 12,204 | 9,822 |
| Australia | 6,553 | 3,275 | 324 | 2,572 | 3,213 | 2,524 | 6,149 | 6,146 | 3,551 | 9,672 | 13,012 | 9,291 | 4,301 | 4,268 |
| New Zealand | 3,536 | 6,596 | 1,560 | 3,644 | 2,557 | 3,322 | 14,237 | 15,306 | 12,168 | 32,298 | 35,056 | 15,730 | 11,137 | 7,387 |
| Union of South Africa | 212 | 310 | 30 | 25 | 224 | 1,292 | 1,556 | 878 | 97 | 491 | 727 | 195 | 54 | 60 |
| Uruguay | 11,943 | 11,196 | 1,385 | 6,335 | 17,336 | 36,188 | 11,848 | 39,378 | 44,555 | 60,040 | 29,272 | 9,452 | 14,366 | 4,676 |
| Argentina | 3,838 | 4,062 | 1,013 | 5,524 | 12,566 | 46,220 | 42,620 | 48,710 | 30,992 | 38,958 | 40,127 | 14,167 | 18,875 | 7,304 |
| Other countries | 11,933 | 5,658 | 2,334 | 4,213 | 7,249 | 9,687 | 8,179 | 17,822 | 41,077 | 19,351 | 12,247 | 5,531 | 6,488 | 4,310 |
| Total | 32,021 | 31,627 | 6,706 | 19,299 | 44,206 | 99,293 | 84,889 | 122,030 | 132,440 | 160,810 | 130,441 | 54,366 | 55,221 | 28,004 |
| Australia | 24,196 | 54,235 | 6,113 | 26,500 | 36,115 | 235,000 | 496,349 | 290,918 | 206,692 | 277,945 | 336,199 | 204,060 | 138,701 | 93,110 |
| New Zealand | 400 | 763 | 121 | 180 | 106 | 693 | 7,354 | 4,375 | 2,067 | 7,525 | 6,355 | 5,599 | 2,841 | 2,005 |
| Union of South Africa | 3,457 | 4,027 | 495 | 8,303 | 31,008 | 41,579 | 75,345 | 42,557 | 23,839 | 37,979 | 120,339 | 42,035 | 31,960 | 27,293 |
| Uruguay | 4,155 | 6,024 | 459 | 7,345 | 23,203 | 59,171 | 13,945 | 57,618 | 54,060 | 79,235 | 58,307 | 50,488 | 84,555 | 11,120 |
| Argentina | 1,501 | 7,405 | 1,798 | 4,638 | 50,687 | 100,515 | 46,185 | 57,729 | 37,242 | 29,184 | 39,612 | 17,760 | 48,465 | 15,647 |
| Other countries | 2,881 | 1,342 | 154 | 1,311 | 7,427 | 12,100 | 5,720 | 13,107 | 13,760 | 14,893 | 11,951 | 5,387 | 14,239 | 62,261 |
| Total | 36,590 | 84,462 | 2,140 | 42,277 | 142,605 | 443,048 | 644,898 | 466,304 | 338,260 | 446,761 | 572,763 | 325,329 | 320,761 | 211,436 |
| Total dutiable | 105,650 | 149,725 | 28,440 | 91,979 | 211,001 | 521,352 | 176,770 | 638,631 | 532,605 | 667,799 | 804,753 | 436,713 | 412,762 | 262,275 |

1/ Excludes country wool. 2/ Preliminary.

Source: Bureau of Census, Department of Commerce.

Compiled in Livestock and Wool Division, OFAR, February 1950.

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FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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FW-2-50

June 12, 1950

MOVEMENT OF WOOL FROM SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE

Summary

The 1949-50 wool clip of the major producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere has moved into consumption channels at a very rapid rate. Total exports for the season through March 31, 1950, were 1,583 million pounds compared to exports of 1,377 million pounds for the same period last year, an increase of nearly 12 percent, according to preliminary data available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Australia and Argentina, the world's largest producers of wool were the sources of most of the increase in exports over last year, while exports from New Zealand were only slightly above last year's, and exports from the Union of South Africa and Uruguay showed an actual decrease. The five countries listed produce more than 80 percent of the world's wool and about 90 percent of the wool entering international trade.

The marketing season, now drawing to a close, has been favorable to producing countries; high prices have prevailed over most of the season, particularly since devaluation, and record prices have been established in the last 2 months. Trade during the season has been unhampered from all countries, with the exception of Uruguay, where a strike of wool handlers virtually halted all shipping operations for several weeks.

The rate of movement this year has been such that very little wool remains in the primary producing countries, and competition for small lots remaining will probably continue to be exceptionally keen in the weeks ahead, until the new clip becomes available.

Seasons begin July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and the Union of South Africa, and October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay.

For information on wool production, by countries, see FW-3-50, Foreign Agriculture Circular, "World Wool Production in 1950," June 19, 1950.

Movements to all Destinations, 1949-50 Season

The United Kingdom, with imports of approximately 527 million pounds was the largest receiver, and the United States, with receipts of 340 million pounds, was second. However, exports to the United States increased by a much larger percentage over last year than did those to the United Kingdom. Exports to Belgium, Germany, and Japan for the period also showed substantial increases over last year, while movements to Canada, France, Italy, and the U.S.S.R. was somewhat slower from the Southern Hemisphere countries. Increases in exports to the major consuming countries, including Germany and Japan, more than offset decreases.

Movements to the United States, 1949-50 season

Exports to the United States for the period were up about 90 percent over last year, and the greatest have been from Argentina. Total exports from that country, at 216 million pounds from October through March, are about 160 percent above last year, while those exports destined for the United States were up 183 percent. Exports from Argentina last year, however, were well below average, because of high domestic prices in relation to world prices.

Exports of wool to the United States from Australia, the second largest supplier, were up 76 percent over last year, while those from New Zealand and the Union of South Africa were up about 57 percent over those of last year. Although the United States received the largest share of the wool leaving Uruguay, exports from that country to the United States were up only 27 percent over those of last year. Now that normal operations have been resumed, exports are expected to pick up.

Trends in Movements of Wool

Exports have naturally followed trends in production in the five major Southern Hemisphere countries, which, with the exception of the Union of South Africa, have been upward. However, during the past three seasons, exports have been abnormally large, as the wartime accumulations have been reduced by heavy purchases by consuming countries to fill the backlog of demand. Now that these accumulations of supplies and demand have been practically exhausted, a return to prewar patterns of trade is beginning to appear.

Exports from all major producing countries in the 1948 season were still well above the 1934-38 average, with the exceptions of Argentina where, as noted before, trade was restricted by high prices and the Union of South Africa where wartime accumulations have been depleted and production is down.

Looking at the consuming countries, it is noted that only Belgium, Germany, and Japan had smaller imports in 1948 than in the prewar years. In Belgium, recovery was rapid after the war; and, by 1948, most of the pent-up demand had been satisfied. This resulted in cutbacks in manufacturing and a return to prewar levels. Germany and Japan were large consumers before the war and have not regained their position as yet, although manufacturing has been resumed and imports have been gaining from year to year.

Imports for France and Italy and some of the other continental countries, which were large in the 1946, 1947, and 1948 seasons, appear to be tapering off and are approaching a level near the 1934-38 average. United Kingdom imports, which were relatively low in 1946 and have been gradually increasing, are now well above the prewar figure, as that country regains its position as the world's largest importer of wool.

After importing 698 million pounds in the 1946 season, the United States receipts of Southern Hemisphere wool dropped to 285 million pounds in 1948. Indications are that 1949 imports will be over 100 million pounds greater than last year's and that imports will remain well above the 1934-38 average, due to increased per capita consumption, the larger population, and decreased domestic production of raw wool.

Although the Soviet Union's method of making purchases has excited the market on occasion, the total purchases are not large compared to other countries. However, as prewar imports were nil, the 69 million pounds received in 1948 should not be overlooked. Exports to the U.S.S.R. for the season through March were only 33 million pounds, considerably below their 1948-49 purchases.

The extreme high prices for raw wool and the considerable consumer resistance to increases in prices for the finished product are causing manufacturers to resort to the use of substitute fibers where possible. The loss of export markets for textiles, as the United Kingdom, Germany, and Japan reenter world markets, is also forcing some curtailment of activity in such countries as Italy, France, and Belgium. Now that the bulk of the war-created surplus of wool is practically gone and the tendency is toward increased consumption of raw wool in the major producing countries, there will be less wool available for export.

WOOL: Exports from Southern Hemisphere countries, 1949-50 season through March 1/,
with comparisons
(Actual weight)

| Principal countries of destination | Australia | | New Zealand | | Union of South Africa | | Argentina | | Uruguay | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | 1948-49 | 1949-50 | 1948-49 | 1949-50 | 1948-49 | 1949-50 | 1948-49 | 1949-50 | 1948-49 | 1949-50 |
| | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds |
| United States--- | 52.3 | 102.2 | 18.4 | 27.9 | 14.1 | 22.3 | 53.0 | 149.8 | 29.6 | 37.8 |
| United Kingdom--- | 262.3 | 333.1 | 130.9 | 146.8 | 48.2 | 45.8 | 0.4 | 1.6 | 0.4 | 0 |
| Canada----- | 6.2 | 6.1 | 9.8 | 6.8 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0 |
| Continental | | | | | | | | | | |
| Europe | | | | | | | | | | |
| France----- | 175.1 | 119.4 | 50.6 | 21.9 | 50.2 | 20.1 | 1.7 | 27.5 | 0.2 | 2.0 |
| Belgium----- | 69.9 | 94.1 | 6.4 | 8.3 | 19.4 | 17.3 | 5.2 | 6.0 | 4.5 | 5.1 |
| Germany----- | 8.5 | 45.7 | 8.7 | 20.9 | 14.1 | 19.8 | 4.2 | 5.7 | 10.2 | 3.6 |
| Italy----- | 85.1 | 44.1 | 2.7 | 3.9 | 21.8 | 7.1 | 3.4 | 7.7 | 10.2 | 3.5 |
| U.S.S.R.----- | 41.6 | 28.8 | 11.1 | 4.2 | 2/ | 0 | 1.6 | 0 | 1.9 | 0 |
| Japan----- | 12.8 | 47.4 | 1.4 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 0 | 0.5 | 0 | 3.3 |
| Others----- | 59.8 | 71.6 | 23.0 | 25.8 | 12.2 | 11.9 | 13.5 | 17.1 | 10.9 | 2.2 |
| Total----- | 779.6 | 892.5 | 263.0 | 269.0 | 183.3 | 147.5 | 83.0 | 216.0 | 68.0 | 57.5 |

1/ Season begins July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and Union of South Africa, and October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay.

2/ Negligible, included with others.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Compiled from official sources and reports of Foreign Service officers.

(Actual weight)

| Country of destination | Australia | | | | New Zealand | | | | Union of South Africa | | | | Argentina | | | | Uruguay | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------|------|-------|-------------|------|------|------|-----------------------|------|------|------|-----------|------|------|------|---------|------|------|------|
| | 1934-38 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1934-38 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1934-38 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1934-38 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1934-38 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 |
| United States | 26 | 330 | 124 | 75 | 15 | 65 | 19 | 24 | 2 | 63 | 31 | 16 | 53 | 173 | 302 | 103 | 15 | 67 | 100 | 67 |
| United Kingdom | 321 | 248 | 338 | 404 | 164 | 194 | 242 | 204 | 44 | 45 | 60 | 63 | 85 | 8 | 11 | 4 | 20 | | 2 | |
| Canada | 3 | 22 | 10 | 8 | 10 | 26 | 12 | 15 | | 2 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 0 | | 0 | |
| Continental Europe | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| France | 110 | 198 | 171 | 218 | 25 | 42 | 64 | 78 | 50 | 52 | 50 | 54 | 48 | 28 | 75 | 20 | 7 | 8 | 0 | 1 |
| Belgium | 116 | 187 | 117 | 102 | 13 | 13 | 11 | 12 | 21 | 66 | 33 | 24 | 20 | 38 | 26 | 9 | 10 | 12 | 12 | 10 |
| Germany | 37 | | 19 | 17 | 7 | 29 | 16 | 23 | 64 | 0 | 20 | 21 | 49 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 31 | 0 | 3 | 13 |
| Italy | 22 | 117 | 42 | 113 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 16 | 120 | 11 | 25 | 19 | 13 | 2 | 10 | 13 | 6 | 13 | 15 |
| Netherlands | 13 | 11 | 10 | 11 | | 12 | 16 | 14 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 14 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 16 | 10 | 9 |
| Sweden | 4 | 22 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 2 |
| Poland | 13 | | 5 | 29 | | 0 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 10 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 1 |
| Others | 26 | 39 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 14 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 24 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 26 | 31 | 8 | 3 | 10 | 6 | 3 |
| Total Continental Europe | 341 | 574 | 370 | 498 | 47 | 117 | 119 | 147 | 158 | 266 | 131 | 135 | 155 | 133 | 146 | 63 | 72 | 65 | 49 | 54 |
| Japan | 132 | 0 | 2 | 23 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 21 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 1 | |
| Other Near and Far East | 2 | 27 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | | 1 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Australia | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 6 | 10 | 6 | 0 | 0 | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Union of Soviet Socialist Republics | 0 | 0 | 12 | 45 | 0 | 0 | 19 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | | | |
| All others | 2 | 11 | 34 | 41 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 11 | 13 | 6 | 0 | | 2 | 2 |
| Total | 827 | 1,212 | 895 | 1,096 | 274 | 413 | 424 | 425 | 231 | 379 | 231 | 220 | 306 | 346 | 472 | 178 | 115 | 137 | 155 | 125 |

Season beginning July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and Union of South Africa, and October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay. Dash (-----) indicates negligible amount included with "Others."

Compiled from official sources and reports of Foreign Service Officers.

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FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FW 3-50

June 19, 1950

WORLD WOOL PRODUCTION IN 1950

World wool production in 1950 is estimated at 3.9 billion pounds, an increase of nearly 100 million pounds over the revised 1949 total, according to information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. The estimate is only 55 million pounds or 1 percent below the 1936-40 average.

Economic and physical conditions in the major wool producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere are favorable for increased production, but the upper limit of production is being approached.

WOOL: Estimated world production, greasy basis, by continents, averages 1936-40, 1941-45, annual 1946-50

| Continent | Averages | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 |
|-----------|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 1936-40 | 1941-45 | | | | |
| | Million | Million | Million | Million | Million | Million |
| | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds |
| North | | | | | | |
| America | 452 | 457 | 370 | 335 | 305 | 274 |
| Europe | 483 | 446 | 400 | 397 | 431 | 444 |
| U.S.S.R. | 310 | 280 | 287 | 286 | 305 | 315 |
| Asia | 344 | 337 | 340 | 342 | 354 | 353 |
| South | | | | | | |
| America | 639 | 757 | 810 | 754 | 689 | 706 |
| Africa | 337 | 322 | 274 | 268 | 281 | 278 |
| Oceania | 1,366 | 1,438 | 1,344 | 1,335 | 1,398 | 1,416 |
| Total 1/ | 3,930 | 4,040 | 3,820 | 3,720 | 3,760 | 3,790 |

1/ Rounded to tens of millions. Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, June 19, 1950.

Based upon estimates of the spring clip in the Northern Hemisphere combined with that produced in the season beginning July 1 or October 1 of the same year in the Southern Hemisphere. Pooled wool is included for most countries at its greasy equivalent. World wool production is summarized twice each year. The next summary will be in November at which time the outturn of the clip will be revised.

Sheep numbers and wool production in Europe have nearly attained their prewar levels and further increases are expected. The record prices for wool during the past year have caused all minor producing countries of the world to increase wool production to the limit. Conditions are not conducive to increases in Canada and the United States where decreases in sheep numbers, due largely to the favorable prices offered for lamb and sheep for slaughter and to the competition of other farm enterprises, continued during the year. In most other areas economic conditions are currently favorable.

Little change is anticipated in the composition of the world production of wool, as the output of both apparel and carpet wool is expected to increase in about the same proportion. Under the present world supply situation the price incentive is equally as strong for both. The proportion of merinos will remain about the same in spite of the decline in the Union of South Africa and the United States. Crossbred production may increase relative to merinos due to increases in New Zealand and Argentina.

In Australia, by far the most important wool producing country of the world, production has been increasing since the postwar low of 933 million pounds in 1945 when effects of the widespread drought were felt. The sheep number level has been regained since the drought and are estimated at 115 million head in March, 1950. Flocks are in good condition as winter approaches and moisture and feed conditions are favorable. If these conditions continue through the winter the 1950 clip should surpass the 1941-45 average.

Reports from New Zealand indicate a reversal of the down swing in sheep numbers that has been under way since 1945. With the large lamb crop this season, some increase is to be expected in wool production in the current shearing season and in the following 2 seasons at least. The sheep industry in New Zealand is more stable than in Australia and the Union of South Africa. Weather is not a limiting factor to the degree that it is in the latter countries.

In the Union of South Africa prospects of any increase in wool production appear doubtful as result of drought conditions during 1949. Present estimates place production in both 1949 and 1950 somewhat below 1948. However, in view of the high price for wool, a determined effort will be made by wool growers to maintain their flocks and the final results in 1950 possibly will not be very much below last year. One factor limiting wool production in South Africa is the increase in the goats and non-wool sheep to the detriment of merinos, particularly in Karakul sheep because of high prices for Karakul pelts.

Present high prices and the favorable long-range outlook offer an incentive for increasing sheep numbers and wool production in Argentina. Labor shortages and drought in recent years have hindered such expansion, but some increase in numbers apparently occurred following the 1949 lambing, and a further upward trend is expected.

Conditions of sheep entering the 1950 winter are considered reasonably good, and if the winter proves favorable, the expected increase should materialize. Most of the expansion in sheep numbers are in those producing fine crossbred wool.

It is reported that some overstocking of both sheep and cattle exist in Uruguay and that competition between the two is not favorable to an increase in sheep numbers and in wool production, even though wool is the chief dollar earner. Some exports of sheep to Brazil has taken place to relieve overstocking.

In the United States and Canada, the chief wool producing countries of North America, the production of wool is still much below recent years. There is some indication, however, in both countries that the bottom is near in the decline in sheep numbers.

The great areas of North Africa, the Near East and Far East, the U.S.S.R., China and India, produce coarse or carpet wools predominately. Although information is fragmentary as to indigenous production in most of these areas, more and better quality wool is entering international commercial channels and the trend in wool production is definitely upward.

There has been a gradual rehabilitation of flocks in Europe and wool production is now approaching the 1936-40 average. In the United Kingdom and Ireland some improvement has been made since the adverse winter of 1946-47 and now is nearly up to the 1946 level.

Spain, the second most important wool producing country in Europe has experienced severe drought in the past year, but production is still up to the 1936-40 average.

Both Italy and France have shown improvement and the generally favorable weather in Central and Eastern Europe has made possible increases up to prewar levels.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled articles on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. For this report, the Committee was composed of Clarence M. Purves, Acting Chairman, Floyd E. Davis, Eugene T. Ransom and Mary E. Long.

WOOL: Production in specified countries, greasy basis, averages, 1936-49 and 1941-45, annual 1946-1950 1/

| Continent and country | Averages | | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 2/ | 1949 2/ | 1950 2/ |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 1936-49 | 1941-45 | | | | | |
| | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds |
| NORTH AMERICA | | | | | | | |
| Canada..... | 15.6 | 17.7 | 16.7 | 14.1 | 11.9 | 9.8 | 9.0 |
| United States | | | | | | | |
| Shorn..... | 360.6 | 360.2 | 280.5 | 252.8 | 233.9 | 217.0 | 212.0 |
| Pulled..... | 64.7 | 68.3 | 61.3 | 56.0 | 46.6 | 36.4 | 35.0 |
| Total..... | 425.3 | 428.5 | 341.8 | 309.4 | 280.5 | 253.4 | 247.0 |
| Estimated total 3/..... | 451.7 | 457.3 | 369.7 | 334.7 | 305.2 | 273.5 | 265.5 |
| EUROPE | | | | | | | |
| Austria..... | 2.1 | 2.7 | 2.5 | 2.6 | 3.1 | 3.6 | 3.0 |
| Bulgaria..... | 28.7 | 26.4 4/ | 21.9 4/ | 25.7 4/ | 28.6 4/ | 30.0 | - |
| Eire..... | 17.2 | 15.9 | 14.5 | 13.3 | 12.2 | 12.0 | 13.0 |
| Finland..... | 2.7 | 1.9 | 3.4 | 3.0 | 3.7 | 4.0 | 5.0 |
| France 5/..... | 37.1 | 27.3 | 26.5 | 28.6 | 29.3 | 32.6 | 35.0 |
| Germany 6/..... | 31.7 1/ | 35.5 | 25.7 | 25.4 | 26.8 | 29.0 | 27.0 |
| Greece..... | 19.3 | 12.8 | 14.5 | 16.9 | 17.3 | 17.1 | 16.5 |
| Hungary..... | 12.9 | 8.9 | 3.3 | 4.0 | 5.0 | 5.5 | 6.0 |
| Italy..... | 30.4 | 27.5 | 24.7 | 27.0 | 30.0 | 35.3 | 37.0 |
| Netherlands..... | 6.2 | 4.9 | 5.4 | 4.6 | 4.6 | 6.2 | 6.5 |
| Norway..... | 5.9 | 5.9 | 5.8 | 5.8 | 5.7 | 5.7 | 6.0 |
| Poland 6/..... | 6.8 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Portugal..... | 16.3 | 17.2 | 17.6 | 18.0 | 18.0 | 17.0 | 15.0 |
| Romania 6/..... | 40.7 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Spain..... | 70.0 | 83.0 | 79.0 | 77.0 | 88.0 | 72.6 | 70.0 |
| United Kingdom..... | 110.1 | 88.6 | 87.5 | 71.8 | 75.0 | 82.5 | 85.0 |
| Yugoslavia..... | 34.7 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Estimated total | 483.4 | 446.0 | 400.5 | 397.1 | 431.3 | 443.7 | 453.6 |
| (excl. U.S.S.R.) 1/..... | | | | | | | |
| U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) 6/8/: | 310.2 1/ | 279.7 | 287.2 | 285.8 | 304.6 | 314.9 | 325.0 |

[illegible]

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to present boundaries except as noted. June 19, 1950.

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OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FW-4-50

July 17, 1950

WORLD TRADE IN RAW WOOL IN 1948 AND 1949

World trade in raw wool, estimated at approximately 2.4 billion pounds in 1949, was down slightly from 1948 and is approaching the pre-war 1935-39 level, according to information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

International movement of wool in postwar years has been substantially more than current production by virtue of the large stocks accumulated during the war. In 1946 a peak of nearly 3.0 billion was traded as all consuming countries rushed to fill the long unsatisfied demand. Trade has, in latter years, declined as that demand has been satisfied but has still been in excess of current production.

Review of 1949

The 1949 calendar year was a difficult one for the trade. Prices were high at the beginning and reached a post-war peak in February which was followed shortly afterwards by a drop of 20 to 25 percent, which destroyed confidence in the future. Several countries were meeting consumer resistance and a general slow down in business. Noteworthy among these was the United States where the textile industry was undergoing an adjustment and mill consumption was off almost 40 percent. The selling season ended in June and opened again in September on about the same level, somewhat under the peak of February, and after immediate needs were filled prices again receded, perhaps due for the most part to the threat of devaluation. The devaluation of sterling and readjustments of other currencies and the subsequent sharp and continued rise in prices for the rest of the year, caused much uncertainty in the textile trade.

The effect of this year of uncertainty was a slowing down in trade for the year. Mill stocks were depleted to low levels and larger stocks of wool were left in government ownership and in the producing countries than was anticipated.

For information on World Wool production by countries, see Foreign Agriculture Circular FW-3-50 entitled "World Wool Production in 1949 and Preliminary 1950", published June 19, 1950.

These holding, however, had been readily assimilated by the close of the 1949-50 selling season in June, as most of the wool has now moved from the major producing countries, Commodity Credit Corporation stocks in the United States have been almost completely sold and Joint Organization holdings are down to approximately 150 million pounds. Trade during the coming wool year will be limited to that part of current production not used by domestic manufacturers in the country concerned plus the remaining 150 million pounds of Joint Organization offerings.

Major Exporting Countries

Production in the major countries, which supply approximately 90 percent of the wool entering World trade, has been estimated at about 2.3 billion pounds in the 1950-51 season, about 100 million pounds above the 1935-39 average. A greater share than in prewar years of this production will not be available for export, however, as more wool is being consumed currently in producing countries than before the war.

Exports from Australia, New Zealand, and Uruguay were larger in 1949 than in the prewar year of 1935-39, while exports from Argentina and Union of South Africa were considerably below. Some wartime accumulations were still available in Australia and New Zealand, while production was up in Uruguay over prewar. In Argentina pricing difficulties caused exports to be low in 1949 and the absence of stocks, plus decreased production in the Union of South Africa reduced the availability from that country.

Major Importing Countries

United States imports were down by 320 million pounds from 1948 but were still about double, the prewar average. Italy, France and United Kingdom imported more in 1949 than in prewar while Belgium, Germany and Japan were considerably below the 1935-39 level. Imports for Germany and Japan were considerably above 1948, while the other major consuming countries with the exception of the United States and France imported only slightly more in 1949 than in 1948.

Continental totals

Imports into North America were down nearly one-half in 1949 from the previous year reflecting the reduced activity in the United States. Canadian imports were also down about 25 percent while imports into Mexico, although small, were up over last year.

European imports in 1949 were back to the prewar level as that area once more received about 75 percent of the wool entering international trade.

Imports into Asia, which are accounted for chiefly by Japan, were still not up to prewar levels due to the reduced activity in that country, however imports into Japan were up considerably over 1948.

Exports from Oceania (Australia and New Zealand) in 1949 were considerably above prewar as production was greater than in 1935-39 and there was still some of the wartime accumulation available for export.

Exports from South America and Africa in 1949 were lower than in 1948 and in prewar. Most of the surpluses from these areas have been exhausted and current production is down in Africa, while the slump in Argentina's exports last year accounts for the decrease in South America.

RAW WOOL: International Trade, Average 1935-39, Annual 1947 to 1949.

| Continent | Average | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | 1935-39 | | 1947 | | 1948 1/ | | 1949 1/ | | | |
| | Exports: | Imports: | Exports: | Imports: | Exports: | Imports: | Exports: | Imports: | Exports: | Imports: |
| | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. |
| | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. |
| North America | 6.6 | 245.9 | 15.8 | 692.5 | 6.0 | 807.1 | 22.2 | 480.1 | | |
| Europe | 216.0 | 1800.7 | 117.9 | 1735.0 | 91.0 | 1627.2 | 99.3 | 1800.1 | | |
| U.S.S.R. | 2/ | 67.6 | 2/ | 29.5 | 2/ | 59.6 | 2/ | 55.0 | | |
| Asia | 123.8 | 202.7 | 34.1 | 22.5 | 82.7 | 44.7 | 29.4 | 46.7 | | |
| South America | 454.0 | 4.8 | 562.7 | 10.9 | 590.6 | 10.6 | 337.9 | 5.3 | | |
| Africa | 259.2 | 0 | 225.6 | 6.1 | 227.3 | 9.8 | 200.6 | 0 | | |
| Oceania | 1095.4 | 0 | 1295.0 | 0 | 1482.0 | 0 | 1418.1 | 0 | | |
| TOTAL 4/ | 2155.0 | 2321.7 | 2251.1 | 2496.5 | 2479.6 | 2559.0 | 2107.5 | 2387.2 | | |

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Not available. 3/ Based on exports from primary sources.
4/ Rounded to tens of millions.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Wartime Surplus Depleted

The way in which the large wartime accumulation of wool has been disposed of in the past five years along with the current clips, without disrupting the market, is an excellent commentary on the auction system of selling, free trade, and upon the management of the disposal organizations.

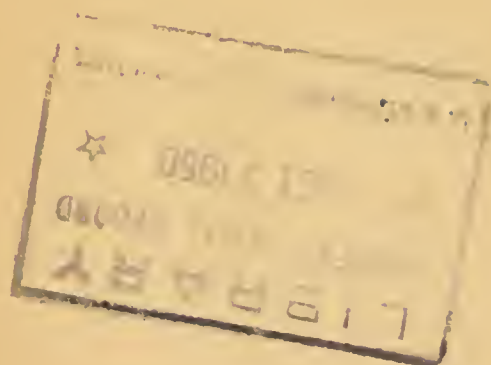
Free and unrestricted international trade in wool, at a time when most major commodities are either under some international quota system or controlled by barter arrangements, coupled with liberal credit arrangements between producer and consumer countries, a rising market and a long unsatisfied demand for woollen products has made possible the liquidation of the huge stocks in five years instead of the original estimate of 12 to 13 years. All government controlled stocks are depleted with the exception of about 150 million pounds of J. O. wool.

WOOL: International trade, average 1935-39, annual 1946-1949

| Continent and country | Average 1935-39 | | 1946 | | 1947 | | 1948 | | 1949 | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | Exports | Imports | Exports | Imports | Exports | Imports | Exports | Imports | Exports | Imports |
| | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds |
| NORTH AMERICA | | | | | | | | | | |
| Canada..... | 6,241 | 13,337 | 4,481 | 53,169 | 3,131 | 39,339 | 3,070 | 42,399 | 3,038 | 31,986 |
| Mexico..... | 2/ | 2,041 | 5 | 9,715 | 2/ | 9,140 | 1,894 | 3,267 | 3,540 | 7,197 |
| United States..... | 325 | 224,498 | 13,389 | 1,246,727 | 12,720 | 644,000 | 1,071 | 761,406 | 15,556 | 440,924 |
| Total..... | 6,566 | 245,876 | 17,875 | 1,309,612 | 15,851 | 692,479 | 6,035 | 807,072 | 22,234 | 480,107 |
| EUROPE | | | | | | | | | | |
| Austria..... | 183:3/4 | 20,900 | 5/ | 5/ | 733:1/ | 11,969 | 360 | 12,175 | 977 | 16,933 |
| Belgium..... | 98,316 | 226,345 | 16,789 | 263,683 | 69,548 | 260,286 | 51,039 | 164,708 | 33,980 | 187,296 |
| Bulgaria..... | 4 | 1,693 | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ |
| Czechoslovakia..... | 3/4 | 1,050:3/4 | 2/ | 19,193 | 21 | 46,541 | 0 | 38,593 | 5/ | 5/ |
| Denmark..... | 353 | 4,149 | 991 | 9,235 | 390 | 12,812 | 0 | 8,986 | 15 | 11,231 |
| Eire..... | 14,250 | 691 | 8,355 | 4,413 | 8,749 | 5,280 | 9,421 | 4,569 | 10,668 | 4,516 |
| Finland..... | 0 | 5,772 | 1 | 3,157 | 0 | 7,104 | 0 | 8,168 | 0 | 10,908 |
| France..... | 59,575 | 403,345 | 3,494 | 482,288 | 6,688 | 424,400 | 2,728 | 488,670 | 29,290 | 482,926 |
| Germany..... | 0 | 259,932 | 0 | 0 | 6/5 | 6/5 | 0 | 90,946 | 0 | 178,500 |
| Greece..... | 1,706 | 7,717 | 0 | 2,158 | 0 | 4,251 | 0 | 5,152 | 0 | 9,685 |
| Hungary..... | 839 | 2,126 | 0 | 2,476 | 0 | 7,765 | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ |
| Iceland..... | 1,512 | 0 | 1,700 | 0 | 1,240 | 0 | 747 | 0 | 574 | 0 |
| Italy..... | 1,040 | 78,958 | 0 | 162,463 | 1,703 | 298,780 | 2,664 | 128,503 | 2,365 | 158,818 |
| Netherlands..... | 3,908 | 16,318 | 4,797 | 32,419 | 1,014 | 56,099 | 1,287 | 35,329 | 1,680 | 41,451 |
| Norway..... | 272 | 2,161 | 9 | 7,767 | 9 | 8,863 | 1 | 7,672 | 4 | 9,037 |
| Poland..... | 80:3/ | 46,045 | 0 | 42,461 | 0 | 40,646 | 0 | 48,300 | 5/ | 5/ |
| Portugal..... | 2,188 | 3,377 | 88 | 14,610 | 815 | 13,730 | 1,279 | 4,486 | 2,014 | 2,501 |
| Rumania..... | 600 | 1,334 | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ |
| Spain..... | 2,195:1/ | 12,236 | 2/ | 7,302 | 44 | 5,575 | 2/ | 11,646 | 0 | 3,366 |
| Sweden..... | 427 | 16,825 | 5,894 | 39,270 | 1,400 | 31,977 | 446 | 26,276 | 5/ | 27,211 |
| Switzerland..... | 271 | 17,234 | 1,829 | 37,639 | 501 | 30,382 | 303 | 20,767 | 270 | 16,603 |
| United Kingdom..... | 26,072 | 628,893 | 41,185 | 384,945 | 25,105 | 468,595 | 20,702 | 522,263 | 17,443 | 679,098 |
| Yugoslavia..... | 1,143 | 8,179 | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ |
| Total..... | 215,984 | 1,800,671 | 85,132 | 1,115,479 | 117,951 | 1,135,031 | 90,971 | 1,621,209 | 99,280 | 1,800,080 |
| U.S.S.R. %/..... | - | 67,550 | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 29,509 | 5/ | 59,621 | 5/ | 55,000 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| ASIA | | | | | | | | | |
| Cyprus..... | 1,226: | 34: | 0: | 0: | 0: | 0: | 0: | 0: | 5/ |
| Iran..... | 12,890: | 5,513: | 1,095: | 0: | 5,671: | 992: | 0: | 5/ | 5/ |
| Iraq..... | 13,651: | 16,307: | 0: | 0: | 6,162: | 0: | 15,573: | 8,206: | 5/ |
| Lebanon..... | 10/ | 10/ | 10/ | 10/ | 10/ | 10/ | 8,762: | 0: | 5/ |
| Israel..... | - | 412: | 3,249: | 0: | 505: | 980: | - | - | - |
| Syria..... | 5,787: | 386: | 6,302: | 0: | 8,031: | 0: | 6,612: | 0: | 5/ |
| Turkey..... | 17,639: | 1,182: | 1,159: | 0: | 1,139: | 0: | 1,059: | 7,694: | 5/ |
| Afghanistan..... | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 3,485: | 0: | 5/ |
| China..... | 23,608: | 0: | 1,036: | 0: | 3,507: | 0: | 8,476: | 0: | 5/ |
| India..... | 49,016: | 12,900: | 32,172: | 0: | 8,503: | 0: | 11,200: | 14,537: | 5/ |
| Japan..... | 0: | 188,257: | 5/ | 5/ | 0: | 2,778: | 0: | 22,266: | 0: |
| Pakistan..... | 11/ | 11/ | 11/ | 11/ | 11/ | 11/ | 26,526: | 192: | 0 |
| Total..... | 123,817: | 202,725: | 62,915: | 32,194: | 34,129: | 22,492: | 82,719: | 44,689: | 29,449: |
| SOUTH AMERICA | | | | | | | | | |
| Argentina..... | 305,725: | 80: | 452,404: | 0: | 376,394: | 0: | 418,202: | 0: | 211,262: |
| Bolivia..... | 0: | 166: | 0: | 2,814: | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 0 |
| Brazil..... | 10,151: | 3,783: | 4,796: | 3,967: | 9,169: | 6,909: | 15,631: | 6,236: | 5/ |
| Chile..... | 23,335: | 769: | 16,667: | 3,897: | 13,150: | 2,109: | 16,512: | 2,171: | 4,076 |
| Colombia..... | 36: | 59: | 73: | 2,133: | 1: | 1,874: | 0: | 2,158: | 1,214 |
| Ecuador..... | 132: | 0: | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ |
| Falkland Islands..... | 4,084: | 0: | 5/ | 5/ | 3,340: | 22: | 3,364: | 0: | 5/ |
| Peru..... | 5,130: | 0: | 645: | 263: | 972: | 0: | 545: | 0: | 0 |
| Uruguay..... | 105,478: | 0: | 130,013: | 0: | 159,633: | 0: | 136,345: | 0: | 106,633: |
| Total..... | 454,035: | 4,798: | 604,598: | 13,074: | 562,659: | 10,914: | 590,599: | 10,565: | 137,877: |
| AFRICA | | | | | | | | | |
| Algeria..... | 12,822: | 0: | 741: | 3,366: | 5/ | 5/ | 138: | 7,912: | 5/ |
| Egyptian Sudan..... | 5/ | 5/ | 71: | 53: | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ |
| Kenya and Uganda..... | 5/ | 5/ | 669: | 0: | 909: | 0: | 894: | 0: | 5/ |
| Egypt..... | 4,489: | 0: | 797: | 457: | 1,646: | 1,369: | 974: | 1,616: | 5/ |
| French Morocco..... | 10,036: | 0: | 4,931: | 1,246: | 2,590: | 4,475: | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ |
| Madagascar..... | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 0: | 0: | 0: | 7: | 5/ |
| Southern Rhodesia..... | 5/ | 5/ | 18: | 0: | 9: | 0: | 14: | 0: | 5/ |
| Tunisia..... | 3,241: | 0: | 524: | 0: | 0: | 230: | 0: | 306: | 5/ |
| Union of South Africa..... | 228,555: | 0: | 467,404: | 7,731: | 220,400: | 0: | 225,300: | 0: | 200,556: |
| Total..... | 259,143: | 0: | 475,209: | 12,853: | 225,554: | 6,074: | 227,320: | 9,841: | 200,556: |
| OCEANIA | | | | | | | | | |
| Australia..... | 821,740: | 0: | 1,168,964: | 5,141: | 940,500: | 0: | 1,070,000: | 0: | 1,133,081: |
| New Zealand..... | 271,618: | 0: | 365,199: | 0: | 354,490: | 0: | 412,000: | 0: | 285,046: |
| Total..... | 1,093,358: | 0: | 1,534,163: | 5,141: | 1,294,990: | 0: | 1,482,000: | 0: | 1,418,127: |
| World total..... | 2,154,962: | 2,321,662: | 2,779,912: | 2,888,353: | 2,251,177: | 2,496,499: | 2,479,650: | 2,558,997: | 2,107,523: |

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Less than 500 pounds. 3/ Four year average 1935 to 1938. 4/ Beginning April 1938, trade between Austria and Germany no longer reported as foreign trade in Germany Statistics. The same applies to trade between Czechoslovakia for the period October to December 1938. 5/ Not available. 6/ Imports for western Germany commencing September 1947. 7/ Two year average. 8/ Present territory. 9/ Based on exports from primary sources. 10/ Included in Syria. 11/ Included in India.





FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FW-5-50

September 15, 1950

INTERNATIONAL WOOL STUDY GROUP

The State Department announced today that the Fourth Annual Meeting of the International Wool Study Group will convene in London on October 2nd. The Group is composed of those countries which are substantially interested in the production, consumption, or trade in wool. This year's meeting will be of special significance because of the nature of the world wool situation. The current wool problem arising from reduced supply and increased demand will be reviewed in detail and the meeting may discuss ways to meet the problems of consumers and producers alike.

The United States Delegation will consist of the following:

Chairman:

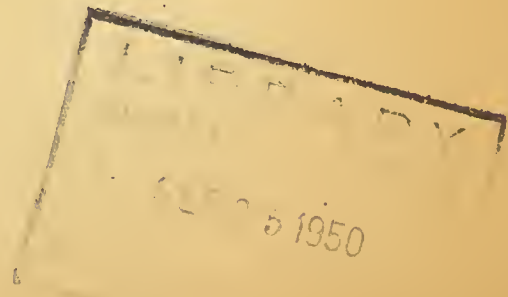
The Honorable Julius C. Holmes,
Minister, American Embassy
London, England.

Vice Chairman:

Mr. Willis C. Armstrong, Associate Chief,
Economic Resources and Security Staff,
Office of International Trade Policy,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

Secretary:

Mr. Stanley Nehmer,
Economic Resources and Security Staff,
Office of International Trade Policy,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.



Advisers:

Government

- Mr. Floyd E. Davis, Head,
Livestock and Wool Division,
Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations,
Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.
- Dr. Stephen J. Kennedy,
Research Director for Textile, Clothing and
Footwear Research,
Research and Development Branch,
Office of the Quartermaster General,
Department of the Army,
Washington, D. C.
- Mr. Rene Lutz,
Industry Operations Bureau,
Department of Commerce,
Washington, D. C.
- Mr. Paul Nyhus, Agricultural Attache
American Embassy
London, England
- Mr. Richard H. Roberts, Chief,
Program Analysis Division, Livestock Branch,
Production and Marketing Administration,
Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

Industry

- Mr. Harold Bishop, President
Boston Wool Trade Association,
Boston, Massachusetts
- Mr. Glen Brown,
National Association of Wool Manufacturers,
New York, New York.
- Mr. C. J. Fawcett, General Manager
National Wool Marketing Corporation,
Boston, Massachusetts.



FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FW 6-50

November 27, 1950

WORLD WOOL PRODUCTION IN 1950

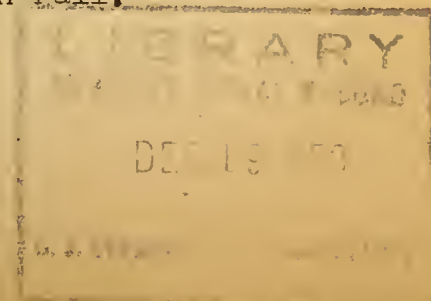
World wool production in 1950 is estimated at approximately 4,000 million pounds, an increase of 140 million over the 1949 output, according to the regular fall summary of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. This estimate is approximately 2 percent above the 1936-40 average of 3.9 billion pounds and approaches the World War II average. This estimate includes both apparel and carpet wool and is on a grease basis.

WOOL: Estimated world production, greasy basis, by continents,
averages 1936-40, 1941-45, annual 1946-50

| Continent | Averages | | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 |
|---------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | 1936-40: | 1941-45: | | | | | |
| | Million: | Million: | Million: | Million: | Million: | Million: | Million: |
| | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds |
| North | | | | | | | |
| America--- | 452 | 457 | 369 | 335 | 306 | 274 | 273 |
| Europe----- | 483 | 446 | 398 | 398 | 424 | 443 | 466 |
| U.S.S.R.----- | 310 | 280 | 287 | 286 | 305 | 315 | 325 |
| Asia----- | 344 | 337 | 339 | 342 | 355 | 347 | 368 |
| South | | | | | | | |
| America--- | 639 | 760 | 808 | 752 | 689 | 709 | 731 |
| Africa----- | 336 | 322 | 275 | 268 | 281 | 282 | 295 |
| Oceania----- | 1,366 | 1,438 | 1,344 | 1,335 | 1,400 | 1,490 | 1,540 |
| Total 1/--: | 3,930 | 4,040 | 3,820 | 3,720 | 3,760 | 3,860 | 4,000 |

1/ Rounded to tens of millions. Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations,
November 27, 1950.

Based upon estimates of the spring clip in the Northern Hemisphere combined with that produced in the season beginning July 1 or October 1 of the same year in the Southern Hemisphere. Pulled wool is included for most countries at its greasy equivalent. Late each Spring an estimate is made of the Northern Hemisphere clip, plus a forecast for the Southern Hemisphere. Data, especially for the Southern Hemisphere, is reviewed at this time each Fall.



This is slightly higher than the 3,979 million pounds estimate made recently by the International Wool Study Group. Of this year's production it has been estimated that about 1,350 million pounds are merino and 1,790 million crossbred, for a total apparel wool production of about 3,150 million pounds. The balance is made up of coarse or carpet wool.

Demand has been stronger for fine wools and reports indicate that production of these wools is increasing at a faster rate than is production of the coarser apparel wools.

Production in the major importing countries, which has been declining for the past 5 years, shows a slight over-all increase in 1950, and there are indications in most of the consuming countries that the downward trend in production may be halted. It is interesting to note that world production outside the United States for 1941, the peak year, and for 1950 is the same. This serves to emphasize the extent of the decline in the United States and the increased dependency of this country upon foreign wools.

In most parts of the world prices for wool and the over-all economic situation as well as the weather, the 2 major factors affecting wool production have been highly favorable in 1950 to the continued increase in total production.

Price-wise, there has been a definite and, at times, sharp upward trend since prices were allowed to seek their level after World War II. The high rate of consumption over the past 5 years, has removed the burdensome surplus which hung over the market following the war and has also utilized current production.

As indicated, economic factors have been in favor of increased wool production in most countries since the war. The notable exceptions being the United States and Canada where production has declined steadily from year to year. In spite of the favorable outlook and the efforts of wool growers to capitalize upon an upward trend in prices, adverse weather conditions in 1947 and 1948 in some of the major wool producing areas caused considerable reductions in those years. In 1950, however, both natural and economic factors have combined favorably and as a result, total production for the year exceeds the 1936-40 average and closely approaches the 1941-45 average of 4,040 million pounds.

Production trends by continents serve to point up the specific areas where output is lagging or going ahead. The estimated 1950 production in Oceania, (Australia and New Zealand) surpasses the previous high mark of 1,512 million pounds set in 1941. Australia is short of the 1,167 million pounds produced that year but the outstanding increase to 390 million pounds in New Zealand brought the total above the 1941 level.

African production, which is made up mostly by the South African clip, has increased slowly since 1947 but is still not up to the 1941-45 average.

Production in Argentina and Uruguay which made up the bulk of South American output is up over last year but is still considerably below the peak reached in 1946.

The greatest decreases as noted have been in the major consuming countries of North America and Europe. Although a steady increase has been noted in Europe, prewar levels have not been attained and production in the United States and Canada continues to decline.

In Australia pastoral and feed conditions have been excellent with the exception of small areas in Western Australia. In spite of flood damage resulting in loss of sheep in New South Wales and Queensland, sheep numbers have increased by approximately 4 million to over 112 million as of March 31, 1950. Australian sheep numbers have shown a progressive rise each year since 1947, when as a result of 3 years of drought, numbers were down to 95 million, but are still below the peak of 125 million recorded March 31, 1942.

New Zealand wool production is relatively stable from year to year but has shown a gradual increase over the last 20 to 30 years. However, because of the unusually good prices over the past three seasons, special efforts have been made to obtain more wool. The practice of saving more breeding ewes and pre-lambing shearing accounts for the more than 6 percent increase during the past season. Pre-lambing shearing has the effect of producing three clips of wool in two marketing seasons but observers expect an eventual decrease from this practice, possibly in the 1950-51 season.

Prospects for the 1950-51 clip in the Union of South Africa appear to be more favorable than they were for 1949-50. Early spring grazing is reported to be better than at any similar period for a number of years and this has reflected in a good lamb crop and in a higher yield of wool per fleece. Weather conditions during the coming summer months will have some effect on the late season clip. Drought frequently occurs in some section of the country nearly every year but present prospects for the 1950-51 wool clip are exceptionally favorable. The main sheep area - the Karroo - is in better condition than for many years past.

Due to the significant increase in prices in the post-world War II period, flocks have made some over-all increase in numbers in spite of droughts, and sheep slaughter is now at an all time low.

There appears to be an erratic trend in Merino sheep and lamb numbers which can only be accounted for through the periodic droughts which have caused small lamb crops during certain years in the past. The Karakul sheep on the other hand are better able to withstand drought and are therefore finding a place in the economy of the country. The upward trend in Karakuls has been steady but not phenomenal. As long as high prices for Merino wool continues, it is doubtful if there will be any rapid increase in Karakul numbers.

WOOL: Production in specified countries, greasy basis,
averages 1936-40 and 1941-45; annual 1946 to 1950 1/

| Continent and country | Averages | | | | | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 2/ | 1950 2/ |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 1936-40 | 1941-45 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | | | | | |
| | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds |
| NORTH AMERICA | | | | | | | | | | |
| Canada..... | 15.6 | 17.7 | 16.7 | 14.1 | 11.9 | 9.8 | 9.5 | | | |
| United States | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shorn..... | 360.6 | 360.2 | 280.5 | 252.8 | 233.9 | 217.0 | 218.2 | | | |
| Pulled..... | 64.7 | 68.3 | 61.3 | 56.6 | 46.6 | 36.4 | 35.5 | | | |
| Total..... | 425.3 | 428.5 | 341.8 | 309.4 | 280.5 | 253.4 | 253.7 | | | |
| Estimated total 3/ | 451.7 | 457.3 | 369.7 | 334.7 | 305.2 | 273.5 | 272.7 | | | |
| EUROPE | | | | | | | | | | |
| Austria..... | 2.1 | 2.7 | 2.5 | 2.6 | 3.1 | 3.6 | 3.0 | | | |
| Bulgaria..... | 28.7 4/ | 26.4 4/ | 23.4 4/ | 26.4 4/ | 27.0 4/ | 27.0 4/ | 27.0 | | | |
| Eire..... | 17.2 | 15.9 | 14.5 | 13.3 | 12.2 | 12.0 | 13.0 | | | |
| Finland..... | 2.7 | 1.9 | 2.6 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.5 | | | |
| France 5/..... | 37.1 | 27.3 | 26.5 | 28.6 | 29.3 | 33.9 | 35.0 | | | |
| Germany 6/..... | 31.7 | 35.5 | 25.7 | 25.4 | 26.8 | 29.0 | 27.0 | | | |
| Greece..... | 19.3 | 12.8 | 15.9 | 19.1 | 18.2 | 17.1 | 16.5 | | | |
| Hungary..... | 12.9 | 8.9 | 3.3 | 4.4 | 5.4 | 5.9 | 6.8 | | | |
| Italy..... | 30.4 | 27.5 | 24.7 | 27.1 | 28.9 | 35.3 | 33.1 | | | |
| Netherlands..... | 6.2 | 4.9 | 5.4 | 4.6 | 4.6 | 6.2 | 6.5 | | | |
| Norway..... | 5.9 | 5.9 | 5.8 | 6.2 | 6.4 | 7.0 | 7.1 | | | |
| Poland 6/..... | 6.8 | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | |
| Portugal..... | 16.3 | 17.2 | 17.6 | 18.0 | 18.0 | 17.0 | 17.6 | | | |
| Rumania 6/..... | 40.7 | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | |
| Spain..... | 70.0 | 83.0 | 79.0 | 77.0 | 88.0 | 82.0 | 110.0 | | | |
| United Kingdom..... | 110.1 | 88.6 | 87.5 | 71.8 | 75.0 | 82.5 | 85.0 | | | |
| Yugoslavia..... | 34.7 | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | |
| Estimated total | 483.4 | 446.0 | 398.0 | 398.2 | 423.8 | 443.3 | 465.9 | | | |
| (excl. U.S.S.R.) 1/..... | | | | | | | | | | |
| U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) 6/9/..... | 310.2 1/ | 279.7 | 287.2 | 285.8 | 304.6 | 314.9 | 325.0 | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--|--|
| ASIA | | | | | | | | | |
| Iran..... | 36.3 | 29.6 | 29.5 | 30.0 | 29.8 | 24.7 | 35.3 | | |
| Iraq..... | 21.6 | 21.1 | 24.2 | 24.0 | 32.7 | 26.7 | 28.7 | | |
| Syria..... | 10.7 | 11.0 | 13.3 | 12.7 | 12.1 | 10.0 | 12.0 | | |
| Turkey..... | 67.7 | 67.9 | 68.8 | 71.2 | 75.5 | 70.9 | 67.2 | | |
| Afghanistan..... | 15.0 | 15.0 | 15.0 | 15.0 | 17.0 | 17.2 | 18.0 | | |
| China 11/..... | 88.0 | 81.0 | 75.0 | 75.0 | 75.0 | 75.0 | 75.0 | | |
| India..... | 72.9 | 79.0 | 54.5 | 54.5 | 53.0 | 46.2 | 50.5 | | |
| Pakistan..... | - | - | 26.0 | 26.0 | 26.0 | 30.0 | 34.0 | | |
| Estimated total | | | | | | | | | |
| (excl. U.S.S.R.) 13/..... | 344.2 | 336.7 | 339.6 | 341.8 | 354.7 | 347.2 | 367.5 | | |
| SOUTH AMERICA | | | | | | | | | |
| Argentina 14/..... | 411.0 | 505.8 | 515.0 | 475.0 | 419.0 | 420.0 | 440.0 | | |
| Brazil 15/..... | 35.5 | 37.6 | 44.8 | 43.0 | 45.2 | 48.5 | 47.4 | | |
| Chile..... | 32.6 | 38.6 | 37.5 | 41.9 | 41.9 | 46.3 | 41.9 | | |
| Falkland Islands..... | 4.0 | 4.2 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.2 | 4.7 | | |
| Peru..... | 19.4 | 17.6 | 17.6 | 15.9 | 17.2 | 18.7 | 19.0 | | |
| Uruguay..... | 126.2 | 144.1 | 176.0 | 158.7 | 147.7 | 158.7 | 165.3 | | |
| Estimated total 16/..... | 638.9 | 759.6 | 808.4 | 752.0 | 688.5 | 708.9 | 730.9 | | |
| AFRICA | | | | | | | | | |
| Algeria..... | 22.6 | 22.6 | 19.8 | 13.8 | 13.2 | 14.0 | 17.0 | | |
| Egypt..... | 7.5 | 5.9 | 5.6 | 5.6 | 7.7 | 6.4 | 8.0 | | |
| French Morocco..... | 35.1 | 39.4 | 20.0 | 25.0 | 28.0 | 30.0 | 33.1 | | |
| Libya..... | - | 3.2 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 1.0 | 1.7 | 1.6 | | |
| Tunisia..... | 12.0 | 12.9 | 11.8 | 11.0 | 7.9 | 8.0 | 11.0 | | |
| Union of South Africa 17/..... | 252.3 | 234.0 | 210.4 | 205.2 | 219.0 | 217.5 | 220.0 | | |
| Estimated total 18/..... | 336.8 | 321.9 | 274.8 | 267.8 | 280.6 | 281.4 | 294.5 | | |
| OCEANIA | | | | | | | | | |
| Australia..... | 1,051.9 | 1,088.0 | 976.8 | 973.0 | 1,032.7 | 1,099.8 | 1,150.0 | | |
| New Zealand..... | 313.8 | 350.4 | 367.0 | 362.0 | 367.0 | 390.0 | 390.0 | | |
| Total..... | 1,365.9 | 1,438.5 | 1,343.9 | 1,335.1 | 1,399.8 | 1,489.9 | 1,540.1 | | |
| Estimated world total 19/..... | 3,930.4 | 4,040.0 | 3,820.0 | 3,720.0 | 3,760.0 | 3,860.0 | 4,000.0 | | |

1/ For summary purposes wool produced mostly in the spring in the Northern Hemisphere is combined with that produced in the season beginning July 1 or October 1 of the same year in the Southern Hemisphere. Pulled wool is included for most countries at its greasy equivalent. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Includes estimates for Mexico, Newfoundland, Netherlands West Indies, Guatemala and El Salvador. 4/ Includes Southern Dobrudja beginning 1944. 5/ Data for years 1945 and 1946 not comparable with prewar and 1947. 6/ Based on present boundaries. 7/ Two years average (1944 and 1945). 8/ Includes estimates for Albania and for countries producing 2 million pounds or less, namely Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Iceland, Sweden and Switzerland. 9/ Based on the number of sheep and an average fleece weight of 4.7 pounds per head. 10/ Includes Lebanon. 11/ Includes China proper (22 provinces), Manchuria, Jehol and Sinkiang (Turkestan). Figures for postwar years of 75 million pounds used only to indicate approximate level. 12/ Includes Pakistan. 13/ Includes estimates for Cyprus, Palestine and Transjordan, Outer Mongolia, Tibet and Nepal. 14/ Based on estimates of the Buenos Aires Branch, First National Bank of Boston through 1947. 15/ Estimates based largely on production in Rio Grande do Sul, which produces about 80 percent of the total. 16/ Includes relatively small production in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Venezuela. 17/ Union of South Africa, Union Protectorates, and South West Africa. 18/ Includes estimates for Kenya, French West Africa and Togo. 19/ Rounded to tens of millions.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Estimates for countries having changes boundaries have been adjusted to present boundaries except as noted. November 27, 1950.

The prolonged winter in Uruguay this year has retarded shearing to some extent, however, the wool market has been very active as about 50 percent of the new clip was contracted for early in the season, principally for export to the United States. It is estimated that about 25 million sheep have been or will be shorn this season and that an estimated 165 million pounds of wool will be produced.

In Argentina it can now be assumed that about 2 million more sheep have been shorn in the main clip this spring, that fleece weights will be as heavy or heavier than normal, that the second clip in March will be a little larger, and that pulled wool production will remain unchanged.

With respect to grades, the production of low crossbreds (coarse or carpet wools) this season may approach 110 million pounds, of which about 75 million pounds are already shorn. The balance would be largely the second clip of March 1951, plus a portion of the pulled wool. The Merino clip may be slightly larger this season than last and will probably total between 85 and 90 million pounds. This leaves a balance of about 240 million pounds of fine and medium crossbreds, with a predominance of the former.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.